

# ONWARD & UPWARD:

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Navigating the Future of  
Sustainability in Aviation

# Module 2:

## Sustainable Aviation Practices



 **Look out for:**



General Knowledge &  
Insightful Facts



Key Things to Note



Self- paced Learning  
Activity



Required Tasks



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# Module 2: Objectives & Learning Outcomes

## Objectives

**2.1:** Defining sustainable aviation practices and technologies

**2.2:** Exploring real life (RL) examples of sustainable aviation in action

**2.3:** Introducing innovative sustainability ideas

## Learning Outcomes

**2.a:** Recognize the importance of integrating sustainability into aviation operations for long-term industry resilience

**2.b:** Identify practical challenges and benefits of sustainable practices

**2.c:** Cultivate a mindset of creativity and adaptability



Write down and set your learning intentions for this module. Ask yourself what do you want to learn and why?



**Skills:** Drive change and innovation, breaking orthodoxies, structured problem-solving, creativity and imagination



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# Objective 2.1:

## Sustainable Aviation Practices & Technologies



# Aviation & the Environment: *Refresher (Module 1)*



## **Key Stakeholders: Global Air Transport System**



Manufacturers



Tourism Community



Ground Support Operations



Regulatory Bodies



Passengers



Airlines



Business Community



Airports & Airspace Operators



## **Aviation Environmental Impact**



GHGs & Climate Change



Energy & Resources



Aircraft Noise Pollution



Waste



Air pollution



For each environmental impact, list 2 examples that any of the key stakeholders would be responsible for.



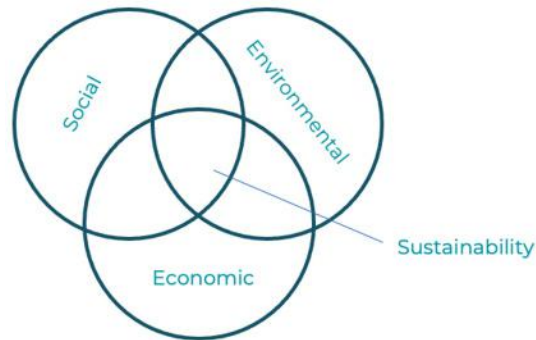
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# Sustainable Aviation Practices: *Guiding Concepts*



Triple Bottom Line Sustainability



Cradle-to-cradle Practices



Interdependency of Sustainable Aviation Solutions

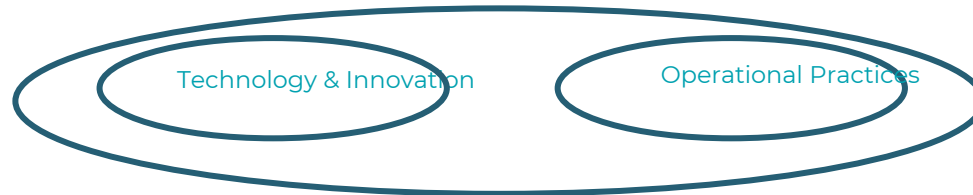


Source: NREL

# Sustainable Aviation: Environmental Stewardship



## Legislation



Aircraft design & technologies



Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAFs)



Eco-friendly airport designs & infrastructure



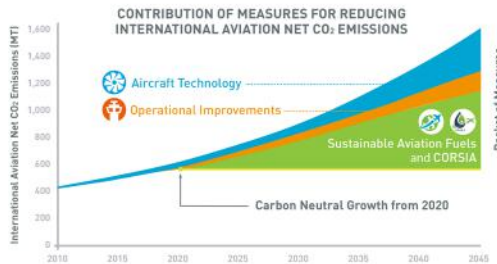
Optimized flight paths



Waste management and mitigation



Noise reduction measures



### Industry Collaborations:



Heathrow

SKYNRG



ICAO



AIR TRANSPORT ACTION GROUP

AIRBUS

Schiphol



KLM Royal Dutch Airlines

How do performance metrics guide decision-making and accountability in efforts to meet set goals? Discuss with your fellows.



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# Sustainable Aviation: Technologies

## Propulsion:



**360 Engine foam wash, reduces emissions and improves exiting efficiency** (Source: General Electric)

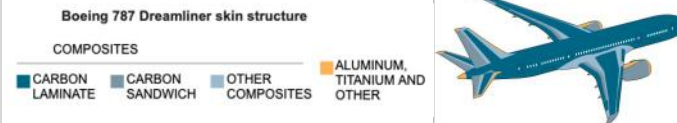


**LEAP energy efficient Engine, 15% more efficient than previous generations** (Source: CFM)

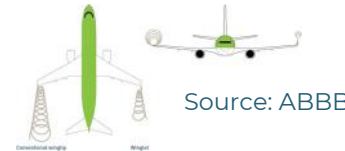


**Airbus E-Fan X electric powered engines and aircraft** (Source: Airbus)

## Aircraft Design:



**Composite lightweight materials** (Source: NY Times)



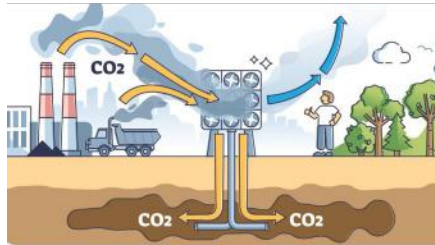
**Winglet devices to improve aerodynamics (biomimicry)** (Source: ABBB)

# Sustainable Aviation: *Technologies*

## Carbon Capture: CO<sub>2</sub> ↓



Carbon capture plants (Source: ISC)



Carbon capture cycle (CO<sub>2</sub> atmosphere capture & storage) (Source: Green Recruitment Company)

## Airport Architecture Innovation:



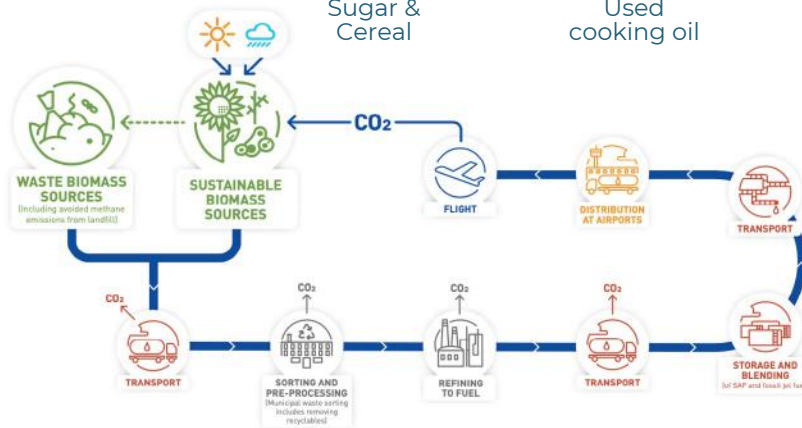
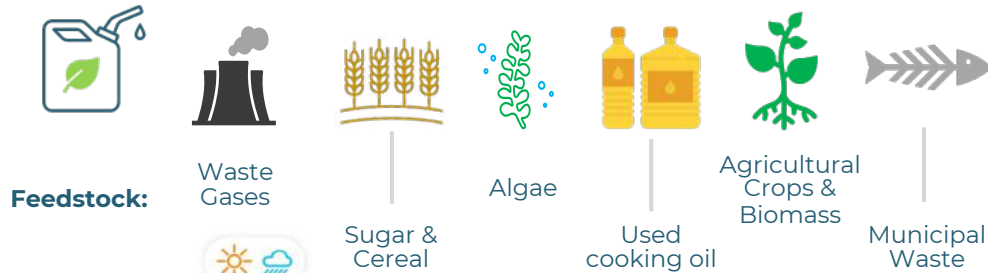
Green airport architecture  
changi airport  
(Source: Mercator Airport- World)



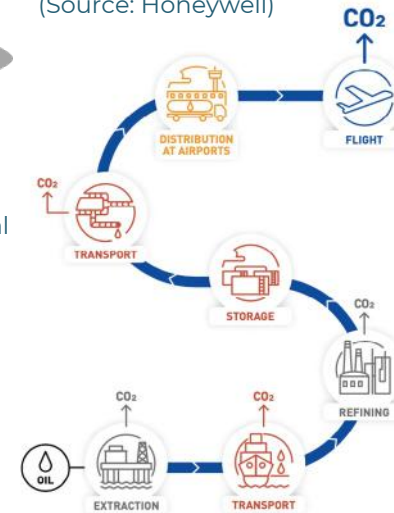
PV Solar panels & energy saving measures in airports (Source: Solar Tribune)

# Sustainable Aviation: Technologies

## Sustainable Aviation Fuels:



**Sustainable Aviation Biofuel**  
(Source: Honeywell)



# Sustainable Aviation: *Operational Practices*

## Airport Energy & Resource Conservation:



**Electric ground support equipment (GSE)**  
(Source: Delta)



**LED airport lighting**  
(Source: ENELTEC)

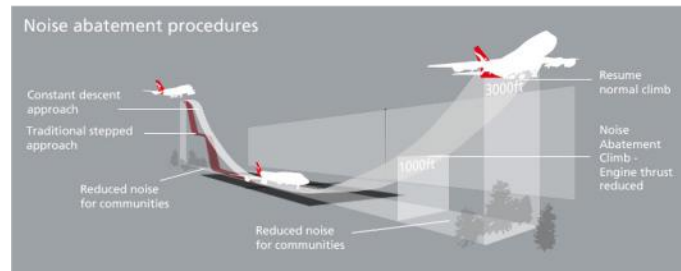


**Window tinting minimising cooling loss**  
(Source: DTE)



**Automatic water saving faucets**  
(Source: Stern Faucets)

## Noise Abatement:



**Optimised flight paths** (Source: Infinite Flight)



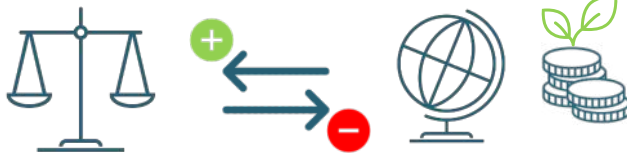
**Noise-reducing landscape & panels**  
(Source: WLA)

# Sustainable Aviation: *Operational Practices*

Carbon Offsetting:  
CO<sub>2</sub> ↓



**Tree planting to offset aviation carbon emissions** (Source: BBC)



**Emission trading schemes;** high carbon producing countries trade with low carbon producing countries to offset and balance global emissions, eg. **CORSIA, UK-ETS**

Aircraft Manufacturing Waste Mitigation:



**Aircraft dismantling material recovery** (Source: Asahi)



**Aircraft end of life disassembly, material and components recovery and recycling** (Source: Airbus)

# Sustainable Aviation: Operational Practices

## Airport and Airline Operational Waste Mitigation:



**Water dispensing stations**  
(Source: Smart Water Magazine)

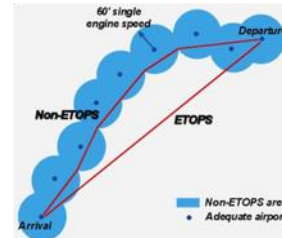


**Waste sorting bins for recycling**  
(Source: Ferrovial)

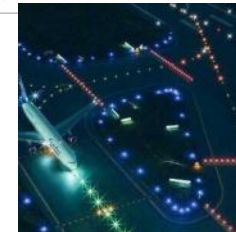


**Onboard waste collection for recycling** (Source: Travel Codex)

## Flight Operations and Path Optimization:



**Flight path optimization reducing fuel consumption**  
(Source: IVAO)



**Follow the greens airfield lighting reducing taxiing fuel consumption** (Source: TM3 Airports)



**Night flight restrictions to reduce noise**



**Electrical power of aircrafts at gates**  
(Source: Schipol)

# Sustainable Aviation: *Industry Constraints*



**Regulatory Frameworks**



**Infrastructure Limitations**



**Market Dynamics**



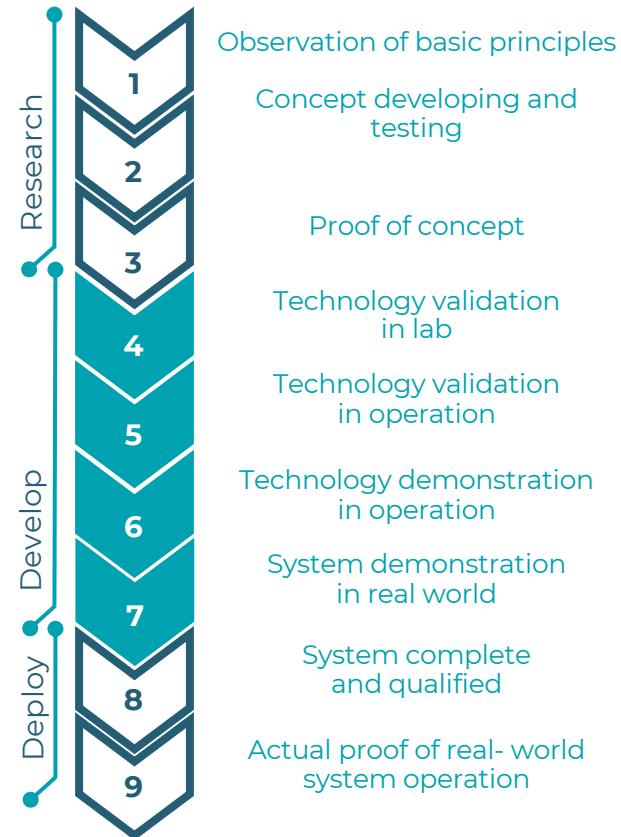
**Technological Readiness**



**Financial Implications**



## Technology Readiness Levels (TRL)



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# Objective 2.2:

## Case Studies of Sustainability Initiatives Implementation



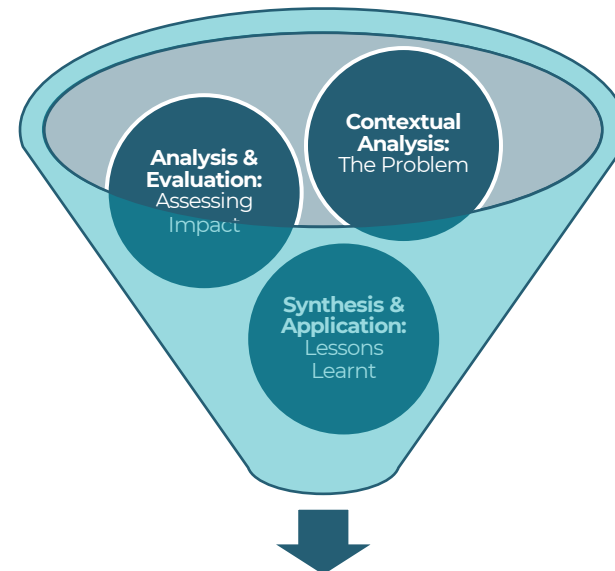


# Case Studies:

## *Real-life Applications*



### Three-point Case Study Analysis Methodology:



Comprehensive Understanding & Actionable Insights

### Importance of Case Studies:

- 1 Gaining practical knowledge by analysing real- life applications that offer tangible examples that reinforce theoretical concepts
- 2 Developing problem- solving skills to understand the implementation process of sustainable aviation technologies and practices
- 3 Analysing the environmental, economic and social impacts of sustainability initiatives as well as identifying viable strategies and practices for overcoming industry challenges



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# Sustainable Technologies: Airline



## Case Study #1: Middle East Airlines

Fleet Modernisation: Airbus A321neo



(Source: AIRBUS) **Synthesis & Evaluation:** (Source: Pratt & Whitney)

### Contextual Analysis

- MEA upgrades fleet to include the new A321neo aircraft
- Operational need for fuel efficient aircrafts aligning with sustainability goals

- Aerodynamic-enhancing sharklets on the wings
- PW1100 PurePower fuel efficient engines
- 30% overall fuel and CO<sub>2</sub> savings per seat
- Certified for 50% Sustainable Aviation Fuel blend usage for future implementation



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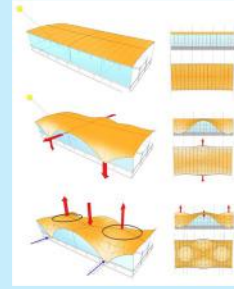
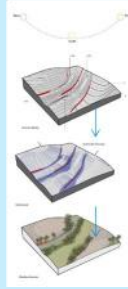
# Sustainable Technologies: *Airport*



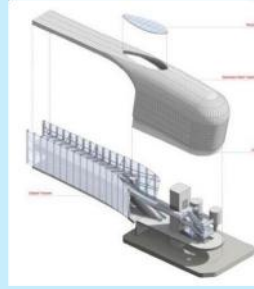
## Case Study #2: Zayed International Airport (Abu Dhabi) Airport Terminal Eco- Design



(Source: DIP)



(Source: ICAO)



### Contextual Analysis

- Airport serves millions of passengers annually
- Industry facing challenges to reduce environmental impact and improve energy efficiency

### Synthesis & Evaluation:

- Improved and efficient utilization of HVAC systems and PV cells (active design)
- Enhanced ventilation and shading through façade technologies; inspired by sand dunes (passive design)
- Reduction of 14.5% overall energy use



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# Sustainable Operations Practices: *Airport*



## Case Study #3: Rajiv Gandhi International Airport

Ground Handling and Operations Electrification



(Source: Clean India Journal)

### Contextual Analysis

- Airport serves millions of passengers annually
- Efforts to maintain good local air quality and minimize carbon emissions and noise levels



(Source: ACI)



### Synthesis & Evaluation:

- Continuous climb and decent flight paths and fixed ground electrical power measures saved 40-50% fuel consumption
- Electrical ground support equipment and transportation lowered air pollution levels as well as a green belt of plants absorbing 265 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> annually

# Sustainable Operations Practices: *Airline*



## Case Study #4: Qatar Airways

Waste and Water Management



(Source: Qatar Airlines)



(Source: Aero EXPO)

### Contextual Analysis

- Airline operations and catering services in specific generate a large amount of waste
- Qatar Airlines introduced waste mitigation initiatives

### Synthesis & Evaluation:

- Increased use of recyclable and biodegradable products by 80%
- Recycled over 1,000 tons of packaging materials, 52 tons of magazines, and 5,000 gallons of cooking oil
- Donating 200-300kg of food daily to charity

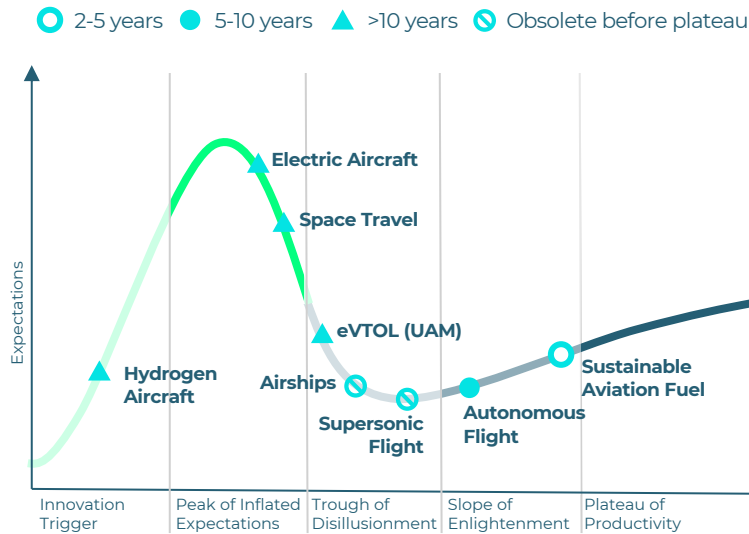
# Objective 2.3:

## Innovation & Sustainable Aviation



# Aviation Sustainability: *the future*

## Aviation Technology Innovation Roadmap



Source: TNMT



**Innovation Trigger:**  
Early stages of development and inception but promising viability

**Peak of Inflated Expectations:**  
Long way ahead of technological development to make it viable

**Trough of Disillusionment:**  
Technological hurdles impeding market readiness

**Slope of Enlightenment:**  
Increasing rapidly interest and R&D underway with promising results

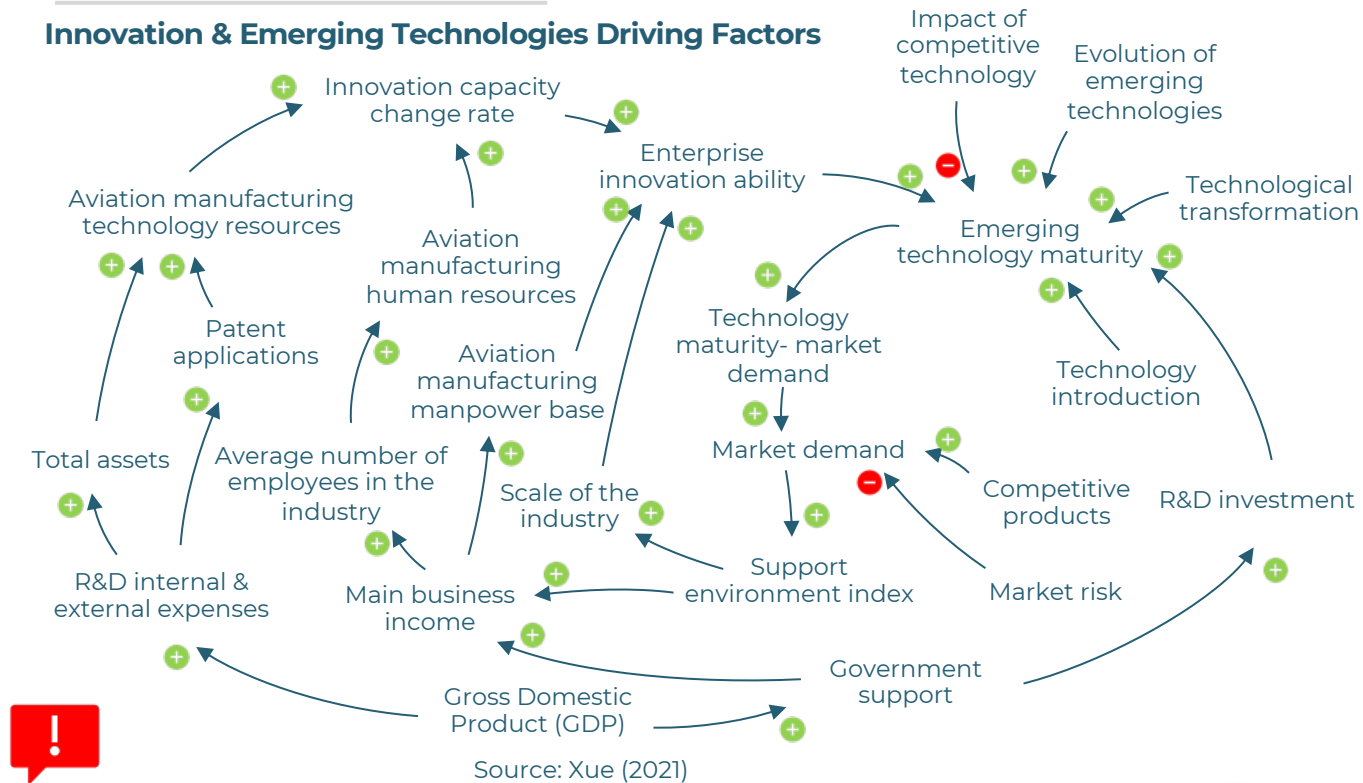
**Plateau of Productivity:**  
Market ready and developed innovation

# Aviation Sustainability: *the future*

**DO**

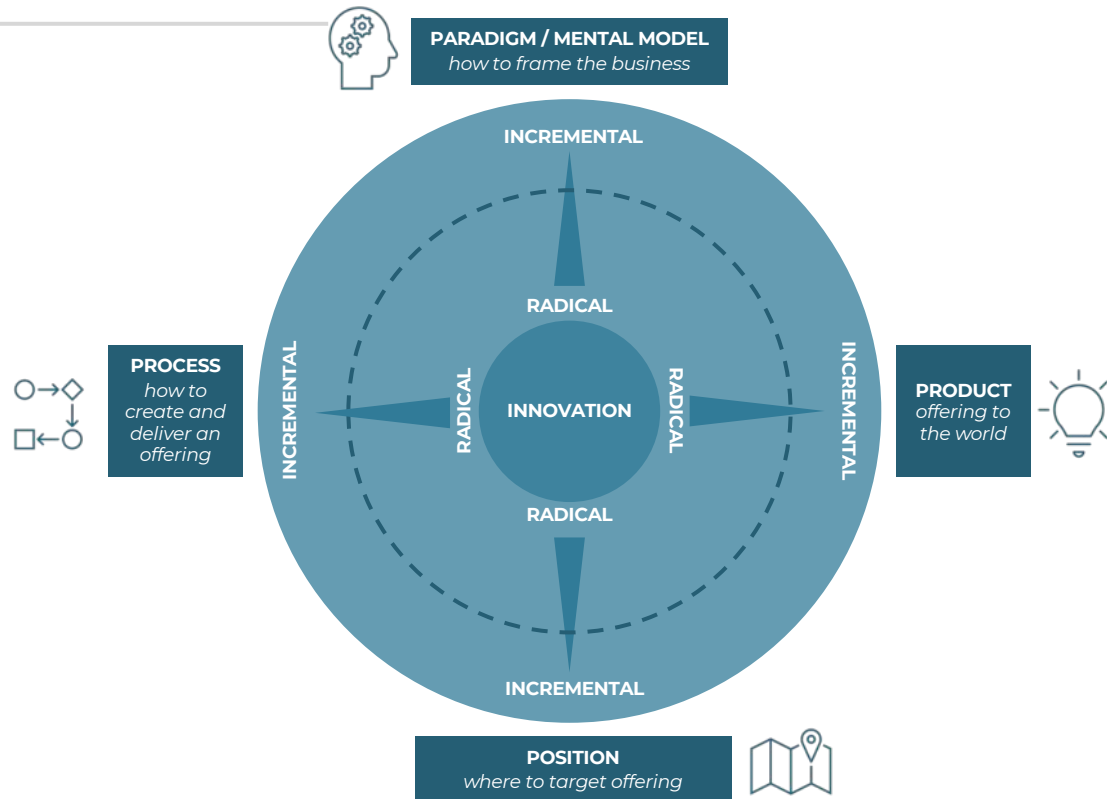
Can you think of other inhibiting (⊖) relationships and how do they affect other factors negatively?

## Innovation & Emerging Technologies Driving Factors





# Aviation Sustainability: *Innovation*



# Innovative Ideas: *Propulsion*

## Innovative Propulsion Technologies

Hydrogen Powered

Introducing Airbus **ZEROe**

<b>Turboprop</b> 	 <b>&lt;100</b> Passengers	 <b>1,000+nm</b> Range
<b>Blended-Wing Body</b> 	 <b>&lt;200</b> Passengers	 <b>2,000+nm</b> Range
<b>Turbofan</b> 	 <b>&lt;200</b> Passengers	 <b>2,000+nm</b> Range

**AIRBUS**

Source: AIRBUS



## Electrical Aircrafts



Source: EE NEWS

# Innovative Ideas:

## *Urban Air Mobility (eVTOL)*

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Source: Urban Air Mobility (UAM) Urban-Air Port



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# Innovative Ideas: Inmarsat (IRIS)



Source: Aviation Today



## The Iris Programme

**Air traffic management is under pressure**

- +50%**  
Expected increase in the number of flights in European skies over the next 20 years
- 1.5B**  
Approximate number of passengers that will pass through Europe's more than 440 airports in 2035
- +42km**  
Average distance aircraft fly longer than necessary in Europe due to fragmentation of airspace

**ESA and Inmarsat are opening up the skies with Iris**

**Iris** is a public-private partnership to enable continental satellite communications over Europe

A safe, secure satellite-based air traffic management data link to relieve congested radio frequencies

**How it works . . .**

- Controller-pilot communications will increasingly become digital, improving accuracy
- Delivering unprecedented security, utilising VPN and security gateways
- IP broadband allows more information to be uploaded to the aircraft (e.g. live weather maps)

**Who benefits from Iris?**

- Airlines access data that enable improved operations and fuel savings
- Enabling more environmentally friendly air transport
- Air navigation service providers can rely on a certified, efficient and sustainable datalink to increase ATM efficiency

**esa** **inmarsat aviation**

Source: Inmarsat